Service Date: September 12, 2000

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

\* \* \* \* \*

IN THE MATTER Of The Application ) UTILITY DIVISION
Of HAVRE PIPELINE COMPANY ) DOCKET NO. D2000.7.106
To Increase Rates and Charges ) ORDER NO. 6267
To Its Farm Tap Customers. )

\* \* \* \* \*

## DEFAULT ORDER GRANTING RATE INCREASE

#### BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On July 24, 2000, the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) received an Application from Havre Pipeline Company (Havre) for authority to increase rates and charges for natural gas service to its Montana rural farm tap customers. The new rate for natural gas service to these customers will be \$2.0298 per MCF, an increase of \$0.6251 per MCF from the current rate of \$1.4047 per MCF. This increase will affect approximately 126 customers, for an average annual farm tap gas bill increase of \$189.00.
- On August 1, 2000, the PSC issued a Notice of Application and Intervention
   Deadline with Petitions to Intervene due on August 25, 2000. The PSC received no Petitions to Intervene.
- 3. Having reviewed this application, the PSC finds that this increase is just and reasonable, and hereby accepts it.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Applicant, Havre Pipeline Company, is a public utility as defined in 69-3-101, Montana Code Annotated (MCA). The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over public utilities, pursuant to its authority under Title 69, Chapter 3, MCA.
- 2. The PSC has provided adequate public notice and an opportunity to be heard as required by 69-3-303, MCA, and Title 2, Chapter 4, MCA (Montana Administrative Procedures Act).
- 3. The rates and rate structure in this order are just and reasonable. Sections 69-3-201 and 69-3-330, MCA.

## <u>ORDER</u>

### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The PSC approves the rates and tariffs for Havre Pipeline Company, which shall be effective for service rendered on and after September 5, 2000.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2000 by a 5-0 vote.

## BY THE ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

	DAVE FISHER, Chairman
	NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair
	BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner
	GARY FELAND, Commissioner
	DOD DOME CO
	BOB ROWE, Commissioner
ATTEST:	
Kathlene M. Anders	on

NOTE: Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. <u>See</u> 38.2.4806, ARM.

**Commission Secretary** 

(SEAL)